- Space heaters have one function to provide supplemental heat. Don't use them to warm bedding, cook food, thaw pipes or dry clothing. Misusing space heaters can put you and your family at risk of fire or burn injuries.
- Select heating equipment that has the UL Mark. The UL Mark on a product means that UL technical staff has tested representative samples of the product for foreseeable safety hazards.
- Remember that three-foot safety zone. Keep things that burn at least three feet away from space heaters.
- Turn off space heaters when you are not in the room or when you go to sleep.
- Supervise children and pets at all times when space heaters are in use. Even the slightest contact with a heating coil or element can cause a severe burn.
- If you have an electric space heater, check for frayed insulation, broken wires or overheating. Have all problems repaired by a professional technician before operating.
- When buying space heaters, looks for devices with automatic shut-off features and heating element guards.
- If you have a liquid-fueled space heater, use only the fuel recommended by the manufacturer. Never use gasoline or any other substitute fuel. The wrong fuel could burn hotter than the equipment's design limits and cause a serious fire.
- When refueling, turn off the heater and let it cool down completely before adding fuel. Wipe any spills promptly.
- If you're considering buying a kerosene heater, check with your local fire department to find out if it is legal in your community.
- Avoid using extension cords with space heaters. If you must use one, make sure you choose an extension cord of the right wire gauge size and type for your heaters.
- Keep the air heater's power supply cord away from high traffic areas in your home. You don't want people walking on or tripping over the cord.